

Message Text

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12

ACTION OC-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 CCO-00 PER-01 MMS-01

OCL-00 /024 W

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P R 101015Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2219

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 1539

E.O. 11562: GDS

TAGS: ACOM, TC

SUBJ: ABU DHABI COMMUNICATIONS OPERATION

REF: ABU DHABI 1335

1. IT HAS BEEN MONTH AND HALF SINCE EMBASSY GAVE ITS CONCURRENCE TO ASSIGNMENT SECOND TCU OPERATOR FOR ABU DHABI (REFTEL). WE HAVE NOT BEEN ADVISED OF PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENT OR OF ETA, AND I WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING ASAP WHEN WE CAN EXPECT THIS SECOND TCU OFFICER TO BE IN ABU DHABI.

2. OUR COMMUNICATIONS SITUATION IS BECOMING SERIOUS. OUR ONE OPERATOR IS HANDLING ALL TRAFFIC FOR THIS EMBASSY, AND HIS WORK LOAD HAS NOW REACHED POINT THAT HE UNABLE PERFORM PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE ON HIS EQUIPMENT. AS RESULT, WE ARE FACING POTENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS FAILURES. C&R CLERK (WHO ALSO HAS BEEN OBLIGED TO PERFORM GSO AND B&F FUNCTIONS) HAS BEEN TOO BUSY POKE ANYTHING BUT PRIVACY CHANNEL MESSAGES, AND NOW HE BEING MEDICALLY EVACUATED TO BEIRUT. THIS LEAVES US WITH NO BACKUP COMMUNICATOR.

3. PRIOR TO EVACUATION C&R CLERK AND BASED ON RECOMMENDATIONS VISITING ATO SUPERVISORS, EMBASSY INAUGURATED PROGRAM FOR CROSS-TRAINING SOME FSL'S IN "POKING" NON-CLASSIFIED TRAFFIC. SUCH PROGRAM IS EXPECTED PROVIDE SOME RELIEF, BUT CAN ONLY BE TEMPORARY AND MARGINAL AT BEST.

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4. URGE THAT PRIORITY BE GIVEN TO ASSIGNMENT AND EXPEDITIOUS ARRIVAL
OF SECOND TCU OPERATOR, SLOT FOR WHOM WAS APPROVED AS EARLY AS
JULY 1974.

5. PLEASE ADVISE.
STERNER

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